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--This object is achieved by means of a fixing label and splicing method as detailed hereinbelow.

The fixing label comprises:

- A2*
- a) a paper carrier having a front side and a rear side and two long edges;
  - b) a self-adhesive composition on the front side of the paper carrier; and
  - c) a double-sided adhesive tape adhered to a part of the rear side of the paper carrier, the double sided adhesive tape being adhered to the rear side beginning at a distance V of from 0.5 to 15 mm from one long edge of the paper carrier, wherein the double-sided adhesive tape comprises:
    - i) a cleavable paper carrier;
    - ii) a self-adhesive composition on a first side of the cleavable paper carrier; and
    - iii) a self-adhesive composition on a second side of the cleavable paper carrier.

In one embodiment, the distance V is 1 to 7 mm. In another embodiment, the distance V is 1.5 to

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3.5 mm.

In one embodiment, one or more of the self-adhesive compositions are pressure-sensitive adhesive compositions based on acrylates or rubber. In another embodiment, one or more of the self-adhesive compositions are water-soluble pressure-sensitive adhesive compositions based on acrylates.

In one embodiment, the self-adhesive composition on the front side of the paper carrier is covered by a release material. In another embodiment, the release material is provided with a slit. In another embodiment, the slit is arranged at a distance of 15 to 40 mm from a long edge of the fixing label which is opposite the long edge closest to an edge of the double-sided adhesive tape.


In one embodiment, the fixing label is 35-120 mm wide and 35-120 mm long. In another embodiment, the fixing label is 40-80 mm wide and/or 40-80 mm long. In another embodiment, the double-sided adhesive tape is 3 to 20 mm wide. In another embodiment, the double-sided adhesive tape is 6 to 12 mm wide.

In one embodiment, the cleavable paper carrier has a cleavage strength of 20 to 70 cN/cm. In another embodiment, the cleavable paper carrier has a cleavage strength of 22 to 60 cN/cm. In yet another embodiment, the cleavable paper carrier has a cleavage strength of 25 to 50 cN/cm.

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In one embodiment, the invention relates to a roll comprising a plurality of the fixing labels, at least one of the fixing labels being joined on each end thereof to another one of the fixing labels through a perforated joint.

In another embodiment, the invention relates to a splicing method comprising the following steps:

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- a) providing a fixing label as described herein;
  - b) providing a new reel of paper having a top web of paper and another web of paper beneath the top web of paper;
  - c) adhering part of the self-adhesive composition on the front side of the paper carrier of the fixing label to an underside of the top web of paper;
  - d) adhering the double-sided adhesive tape of the fixing label to an topside of the web of paper beneath the top web of paper;
  - e) placing the new reel of paper beside an unwinding reel of paper;

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- f) accelerating the new reel of paper to the same speed as the unwinding reel of paper;
- g) pressing the new reel of paper against the unwinding reel of paper so that:
- i) an unadhered part of the self-adhesive composition on the front side of the paper carrier of the fixing label becomes adhered to the unwinding reel of paper, thereby to form a splice between the new reel of paper and the unwinding reel of paper, and
- ii) the cleavable paper cleaves in a such way that upon cleavage remains of the cleavable paper cover both self-adhesive compositions on the cleavable paper and render both self-adhesive compositions outwardly non-adhesive.--

Amend the fourth paragraph on page 4 of the specification to read as follows:

--The drawings show a diagram of a fixing label of the invention in cross section and in oblique plan view and are intended to illustrate the invention by way of example. The reference symbols are explained herein as follows: The symbol "P1" refers to a first paper carrier; "P2" to a cleavable second paper carrier; "N1" to a first self-adhesive composition; "N2" and "N3" to

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second and third self-adhesive compositions, respectively; "DO" to a double-sided adhesive tape; "V" the offset distance; "LK1" to a first long edge; "LK2" to a second long edge; "L" to a release material; "SC" to a slit in the release material; "A" to the distance between LK2 and SC; "B" to the distance between LK1 and SC; "A+B" to the width of the fixing label; and "C" to the width of DO.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel all of the claims in the application and substitute the following new claims:

--13. A fixing label for use in a splicing method for splicing a new reel of paper to an unwinding web of paper, said fixing label having a predetermined length prior to its use in said splicing method, and said fixing label comprising:

- A2
- a) a paper carrier having a front side and a rear side and two long edges;
  - b) a self-adhesive composition on said front side of said paper carrier;  
and
  - c) a double-sided adhesive tape adhered to a part of said rear side of said paper carrier, said double sided adhesive tape being adhered to

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said rear side beginning at a distance V of from 0.5 to 15 mm from one long edge of said paper carrier, wherein said double-sided adhesive tape comprises:

- i) a cleavable paper carrier;
- ii) a self-adhesive composition on a first side of said cleavable paper carrier; and
- iii) a self-adhesive composition on a second side of said cleavable paper carrier. --

--14. Fixing label according to claim 13, wherein the distance V is 1 to 7 mm.--

--15. Fixing label according to claim 13, wherein the distance V is 1.5 to 3.5 mm.--

--16. Fixing label according to claim 13, wherein one or more of the self-adhesive compositions are pressure-sensitive adhesive compositions based on acrylates or rubber.--

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--17. Fixing label according to claim 13, wherein one or more of the self-adhesive compositions are water-soluble pressure-sensitive adhesive compositions based on acrylates.--

--18. Fixing label according to claim 13, wherein the self-adhesive composition on the front side of the paper carrier is covered by a release material.--

--19. Fixing label according to claim 18, wherein the release material is provided with a slit.--

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--20. Fixing label according to claim 19, wherein the slit is arranged at a distance of 15 to 40 mm from a long edge of the fixing label which is opposite the long edge closest to an edge of the double-sided adhesive tape.--

--21. Fixing label according to claim 13, which is 35-120 mm wide and 35-120 mm long.--

--22. Fixing label according to claim 21, which is 40-80 mm wide and/or 40-80 mm long.--

--23. Fixing label according to claim 13, wherein the double-sided adhesive

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tape is 3 to 20 mm wide.--

--24. Fixing label according to claim 23, wherein the double-sided adhesive tape is 6 to 12 mm wide.--

--25. Fixing label according to claim 13, wherein the cleavable paper carrier has a cleavage strength of 20 to 70 cN/cm.--

--26. Fixing label according to claim 25, wherein the cleavable paper carrier has a cleavage strength of 22 to 60 cN/cm.--

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--27. Fixing label according to claim 25, wherein the cleavable paper carrier has a cleavage strength of 25 to 50 cN/cm.--

--28. A roll comprising a plurality of fixing labels according to claim 13, at least one of said fixing labels being joined on each end thereof to another one of said fixing labels through a perforated joint.--

--29. A splicing method comprising the following steps:

a) providing a fixing label according to claim 13;



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- b) providing a new reel of paper having a top web of paper and another web of paper beneath said top web of paper;
  - c) adhering part of the self-adhesive composition on the front side of the paper carrier of said fixing label to an underside of said top web of paper;
  - d) adhering the double-sided adhesive tape of said fixing label to an topside of said web of paper beneath said top web of paper;
  - e) placing said new reel of paper beside an unwinding reel of paper;
  - f) accelerating said new reel of paper to the same speed as said unwinding reel of paper;
  - g) pressing said new reel of paper against said unwinding reel of paper so that:
    - i) an unadhered part of the self-adhesive composition on the front side of the paper carrier of said fixing label becomes